

BRENT MORRIS,

Plaintiff(s),

vs.

BOYD GAMING CORPORATION, et al.,

Defendant(s).

Pending before the Court is Plaintiff's motion for entry of default judgment against Defendant Rachel Martines. Docket No. 15. Plaintiff is litigating this matter *pro se*, and the Court construes his filings liberally. *See, e.g., Berhardt v. Los Angeles County*, 339 F.3d 920, 925 (9th Cir. 2003). Obtaining a default judgment is a two-step process, by which the movant must first obtain default. *See, e.g., Eitel v. McCool*, 782 F.2d 1470, 1471 (9th Cir. 1986); Fed. R. Civ. P. 55(a). Once a default has been obtained, then a plaintiff may seek default judgment. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 55(b).

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1 To the extent the pending motion seeks entry of default judgment, it is **DENIED** as premature.  
2 In the event that a default is entered, Plaintiff may then file a motion for default judgment.<sup>1</sup>

3 IT IS SO ORDERED.

4 DATED: November 10, 2016

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8 NANCY J. KOPPE  
9 United States Magistrate Judge  
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28 <sup>1</sup> The Court is expressing no opinion herein as to whether entry of default or default judgment is proper.